

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AF-10 ARA-10
EA-10 NEA-10 OIC-02 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-11 /157 W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5325
INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

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USMTN

STR FOR ACTION

STR PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MTN, ETRD, FI
SUBJECT: MTN: FINLAND'S RESPONSE TO U.S. NTM
REQUESTS ON INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

1. US MTN DEL RECEIVED TODAY A COPY OF FINLAND'S RESPONSE
TO THE THREE U.S. REQUESTS ADDRESSED TO FINLAND ON NON-
TARIFF MEASURES AFFECTING INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS. THE
TEXT OF THE FULL RESPONSE IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

WITH REFERENCE TO THE PROCEDURES ADOPTED BY THE GROUP "NON-
TARIFF MEASURES" FOR THE SUBMISSION OF REQUEST LISTS
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(MTN/NTM/35), AS WELL AS THE REQUESTS SUBMITTED BY THE
UNITED STATES TO FINLAND (MTN/NTM/R/10), I HAVE THE
HONOUR TO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING RESPONSE TO THE REQUESTS
CONCERNED.

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THAT IMPORTANT QUESTIONS SUCH
AS CUSTOMS VALUATION, STANDARDS, GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT,

IMPORT LICENSING ETC. ARE BEING NEGOTIATED IN VARIOUS NON-TARIFF MEASURES SUB-GROUPS, I WOULD LIKE TO CONFIRM THAT FINLAND ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS IN THESE GROUPS, WHERE SOME OF THE MOST SEVERE OBSTACLES TO TRADE ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION. FINLAND WILL CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE ACTIVELY TO THIS MULTILATERAL WORK AIMING AT MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS IN THE FORM OF CODES OR AGREEMENTS.

THE UNITED STATES HAVE REQUESTED THE 50 PERCENT ALTERNATIVE VALUE ADDED CRITERION FOR ALL PRODUCTS BE ADOPTED IN THE EC/EFTA ORIGIN RULES. THIS REQUEST CONTINUES TO BE EXAMINED AND WILL BE REVERTED TO AT A LATER STAGE. THE UNITED STATES HAVE REQUESTED THE ELIMINATION OF THE IMPORT EQUALIZATION TAX APPLIED BY FINLAND. THE TAX WAS INTRODUCED IN 1971 TO OFFSET THE COMPETITIVE DISADVANTAGES CAUSED BY THE FINNISH TURNOVER TAX SYSTEM TO DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED GOODS AS COMPARED WITH IMPORTED ONES. THE TURNOVER TAX SYSTEM HAS CERTAIN CUMULATIVE EFFECTS, IN THAT THE TAXATION VALUE FOR HOME PRODUCED GOODS COM-PRISES IN CERTAIN CASES THE TURNOVER TAX PAID AT AN EARLIER STAGE. THIS SPECIAL FEATURE DOES NOT EXIST IN TAX SYSTEMS WITHOUT CUMULATIVE EFFECTS AND IMPLIES OFTEN THAT DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED GOODS BECOME SUBJECT TO HIGHER TAXATION THAN IMPORTED GOODS. FINLAND IS CONSEQUENTLY NOT IN A POSITION TO MODIFY HER IMPORT EQUALIZATION TAX. THE UNITED STATES HAVE REQUESTED THAT CERTAIN CREDIT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RESTRICTIONS ON PASSENGER CARS BE MODIFIED. I REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT FINLAND IS NOT IN A POSITION TO NEGOTIATE AMENDMENTS TO THESE RESTRICTIONS.

END QUOTE.

2. DRAFTED BY WALLAR. MCDONALD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 31 jan 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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